jects (India) Ltd. (EPI), a Public Sector Undertaking, in March, 1989 after conducting detailed soil tests through a specialised Agency. The work was, however, suspended by the contractor in November, 1989 after a geological fault was observed during excavation of the tower foundation. Additional tests were carried out and it was decided to shift the location of the tower within the existing site to ensure safety of the tower.

The transmitter equipment for this project has already been ordered on the manufacturers. A project of this magnitude involves a lead time of about 4 years for completion after commencement of works at the site. As per the present indications, the proposed high power transmitter at Bhuj is expected to be commissioned into service during 1993 on construction of the tower.

Multiple-lane express highways

*318. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to build multiple-lane express highways across the country; and

(b) if so, the time-frame for implementation of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN) : (a) A beginning has been made by taking up the construction of an Expressway between Ahmedabad and Vadodara.

(b) Construction of further expressways in the country will depend on justification of these facilities, position of resources, *inter-se* priority etc. A study has been commissioned to formulate a comprehensive plan for the development of an Expressway network in the country.

Concept of open Government

*319. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are committed to the concept of 'Open Government';

(b) if so, the details of the concept in broader sense;

(c) whether Government have so far taken any steps to achieve this concept; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) : (a) to (d) Amendments to the Official Secrets Act, 1923, with a view to providing greater acces to official information and for making the functioning of the Government more open, are being processed. Considerable material has been prepared and studied in groups comprising officials and non-officials, and a Task Force is now proposed to be set up for examining the kinds of information which could be made available by Government and the institutional set up for its dissemination. The Task Force is expected to submit its recommendations whithin threemonths' time.

उत्तर प्रदेश में टेलीविजन नेटवर्क

*320. **डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1990–91 के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश में कितने प्रतिशत आबादी को टेलीविजन-प्रसारण की परिधि के भीतर लाए जाने का विचार है ; और

(ख) यह प्रतिशतता अन्य राज्यों की प्रतिशतता के मुकाबले कितनी है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री पी० उपेन्द्र) : (क) और (ख) वर्ष 1989–90 के अंत में लगभग 87 प्रतिशत जनसंख्या की तुलना में, वर्ष 1990–91 के अंत तक, उत्तर प्रदेश की लगभग 92 प्रतिशत जनसंख्या को दूरदर्शन सेवा उपलब्ध हो जाने की आशा है । नीचे दिये गए विभिन्न राज्यों की जनसंख्या कवरेज की तुलना में यह कवरेज संतोषजनक है :—

राज्य	1989–90 के अंत में (31–3–90 को) प्रतिशत	1990–91 के अंत (31–3–91 को) प्रतिशत
आन्ध्र प्रदेश	68.5	74.6
अरूणाचल प्रदेश	44.4	44.4
असम	80.8	80.8
बिहार	78.2	91.7
गोआ	100.0	100.0
गुजरात	76.8	76.8
हरियाणा	98.5	98.5
हिमाचल प्रदेश	58.7	58.7
जम्मू और कश्मीर	89.8	90.0
कर्नाटक	57.1	68.6
केरल	86.3	86.3
मध्य प्रदेश	47.9	60.0
महाराष्ट्र	67.4	81.3
मणीपुर	66.4	81.0
मेघालय	97.2	97.2
मिजोरम	53.1	72.3
नागालैंड़	47.2	69.6
उड़ीसा	65.5	77.0
पंजाब	100.0	100.0
राजस्थान	51.8	51.8
तमिलनाड़	89.2	89.2
सिक्किम	63.1	95.0
त्रिपुरा	93.3	93.3
उत्तर प्रदेश	87.3	92.0
पश्चिमी बंगाल	95.1	95.1